THE EXAMINER.

No. 355. SUNDAY, DEC. 25, 1814.

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 355.

CHARACTER OF THE CONGRESS AT VIENNA, AND PRESENT FEELINGS OF BONAPARTE.

When the people of Europe, after enabling their respective Princes to conquer BONAPARTE, were told that their affairs were to be settled at a Congress, they certainly expected that such an assembly would be equally prompt and open,—prompt, because the situation of things required it, and open, because the plain and simple spirit of justice professed by the Allied Sovereigns demanded nothing of concealment.

They have now waited, however, month after month; and it may be truly said, they know about as much of this Congress as they do of any assembly that may take place in the moon. Indeed, it is difficult to say what is meant by the Congress, or whether there is actually any such thing.

Formerly such a meeting took place with as regular explicitness and formality as that of a public Society or Institution. A Diet, for instance, seated all the Princes and Ministers in their appropriate places and dresses, was opened by heralds, priests, and secretaries, and at least endured, if it did not listen to the representations and set-speeches of the various persons interested. It was the same with the theological councils; however absurd in their object, they were at least in earnest; and every pleader, in his turn, invited all Christendom to attend to the force of his arguments, and the omnipotent vivacity of his faith.

Now however we are told of a Congress, and yet know nothing either of it's time, place, or proceedings. All that we can ascertain is, that there are a number of Princes and Ministers at present in Vienna; and all we can guess, that they occasionally talk with each other on our affairs. The persons nearest the spot have no better information than ourselves; the German newspapers, day after day, only put forth a series of contradictions; and if we are to judge from the late conduct of Ministers in the House of Commons, even the politicians immediately concerned can hardly say what they are doing. The only sure thing,—the *only* sure thing, be it observed, which has come out during the whole sitting, or standing, or dancing, or whatever else it may be of this alleged Congress, was a resolution on the part of Prussia to take possession for himself and his *heirs* of the dominions of the King of Saxony,—a resolution which was declared in so many terms by the paper of Prince RADZIWIL, and which it has since been attempted to explain away into a temporary occupation. The cloven foot seems to have been put forth by way of experiment; but the outcry of Saxony, and a great rap from Mr. WHITBREAD and others, made it draw in again.

It is this kind of behaviour on the part of the Allied Sovereigns, which gave rise to our last week's observations; and this very behaviour, if nothing else did, ought to enlighten them as to the mistakes they are making. They seem, in the first instance, to think they can settle these matters by themselves; and exhibit, in the next, a sort of conscious inability to do so. They would be guilty of BONAPARTE's violations of justice, without his power to pursue what he determined upon; they would act in contempt of society, and then teach society to have a contempt for them; they do not dare to do ill, though they continually threaten it; and thus by shewing that they would if they could, they take away from such want of daring the only spirit which redeems it from cowardice,—that which dares to do well.

What character then shall we give to this political spirit of the Allied Sovereigns,—this spirit, which puts forth its cloven foot with as "pretty a kind of natural shrugging," as the lady going to bathe does in Sir PHILIP SIDNEY's *Arcadia*? It is the worst and the weakest of all spirits,—that of *imbecility meditating injustice*. A poor devil indeed! "By this light, a very shallow monster!"

We repeat for the twentieth time, that society cannot be expected to sit down quietly under the *last dregs* of such characters as the Allied Princes *appear* to be, and as in one instance at least, they have partly proved themselves to be. We are heartily sorry that appearances and facts are of such a nature;—indeed we have more reason to be sorry than most people, because we were heartily in earnest in congratulating our fellow-creatures upon the downfall of one arbitrary dictator, and in persisting to encourage and think as well as possible of those who are now attempting to imitate him; but we were so, and did so, simply because we saw him acting unjustly, and hoped they would have common sense and gratitude enough to do otherwise;—the cant of ancestry and legitimacy, and all the other nonsense which men with no proper pride of their own would set up in opposition to personal merit and every other consideration, never weighed an atom with us; and as we do not suppose ourselves the only persons, to whom these matters are quite indifferent in cases of emergency,—as we are convinced, on the contrary, from all which Europe has been reading, hearing, and seeing, for the last thirty years, that there is a very general contempt for them among the whole respectable part of the community, as far as regards any saving qualities they may possess in redeeming their owners from the responsibility of actual folly and oppression, we are persuaded the world at large will no more put up with insults from these legi-

timate Kings and Emperors, than any decent person would take a blow from another upon the strength of his being a lord's son or his having a lofty old dowager for his grandmother. Even the military spirit, which has done so much evil, will assist to do good in this respect. The dread of it, we have no doubt, well as we are inclined to think of Louis the 18th, has helped to save the French people from the return of their old despotism; and it has put forth too many active men all over Europe, and made the community in general feel their own strength and importance too well to let them tamely stand by in multitudes, and see two or three common-place individuals carve out and dispose as they please of the various soils, upon which they have all been bleeding, and conquering, and learning to value themselves.

And how do we suppose that all this is regarded by Bonaparte? Doubtless, with feelings of hope and exultation. It may be very well to affect an indifference as to what he may think on the subject; and still better to call him an adventurer and a low-born fellow, especially when these legitimate personages are acting so meritoriously. But really, to speak the plain truth, Bonaparte at the head of the Austrian or Italian armies, and with Poland, Saxony, Norway, and fifty little German sovereignties to wish him success, would be rather a formidable object.

When we speak of the Italian and Austrian armies, we allude to the two modes, in which we conceive it not at all improbable that Napoleon may again come forward, should the Allied Sovereigns grow no wiser than they seem at present.

The first is in case the Sovereigns should league more decidedly together, and thinking they had the game in their own hands, proceed to break the rest of their promises, and drive Murat, for instance, to desperation. Murat has acquired a great deal of influence in Italy. In the first place, he has most assuredly no contrast to fear with the late Sovereign of Naples;—he has been powerful enough to keep his wife's sister, one of the Bonapartes, in possession of a principality she enjoyed; and it is well known, that a multitude of Italian Officers, disgusted at the conduct of Austria towards their countrymen, have flocked to his standard. The conduct of Austria indeed, by endeavouring to exhaust the late kingdom of Italy of it's treasure, to resume and even extend it's old unnatural jurisdiction in that country, and to put down all public spirit, whether of a bad or good tendency, has done it's best to disgust the whole population. Then the former petty Princes are treated as of no consequence by any body; and we scarcely need add, that the Pope is almost as little regarded. What Murat then would determine, and what, in our opinion, he would completely succeed in, would be to revolutionize the whole of Italy over again, and to call in Bonaparte to his assistance. This may appear, at first sight, to be nothing against the whole Allied Power; but the captains would be at once desperate and skilful; one of them has a name, the magic of which might in some measure return; and the full spirit and resources of the Italians, divided as they have hitherto been among themselves, and oppressed by foreigners, have never yet perhaps been tried in the whole course of modern history. Add to this, the *chance* that the Allied Powers, now taught to distrust each other by their own selfish policy at the Congress, would renew their jealousies,—add the *chance* also (and one which, on account of the improvements in the French constitution, we should be truly sorry to see) that the French armies would be longing to join their old leader again,—and lastly, add the deplorable *fact*, that all the countries of Europe would not be as hostile in their hearts to Napoleon as they were twelve months ago,—and perhaps there results so much likelihood of Murat's succeeding, and of the restoration, to a certain extent, of Napoleon himself, that this very circumstance argues against the probability of their chusing to run the risk.

The other event which might bring Napoleon forward again, is a rupture between the Emperors Alexander and Francis. There have been considerable rumours of quarrels to this effect; and when we consider the ambition that Russia manifested as long as she had the power to do so, and add to it the increased taste she must have acquired lately for the more southern parts of Europe,—places, that have always attracted a longing eye from the people of the North,—it is very far from unlikely, that in the absence of an unanimous and proper spirit on the part of the Allied Sovereigns, Russia should start off from the debate with a kind of impatient feeling of her own importance; and Austria, in addition to her old jealousy, feel an angry alarm at the other's threats, especially when she recollects the predominant part which Russia played in the late contest. Should this be the case, Austria would probably get little help from the nations around her, who would rather aggrandize the distant power than the neighbouring one; and then, it appears to us, the Emperor Francis might be willing to turn to account that family connexion with Bonaparte, which has by turns annoyed and been of use to him, and of which, at all events, he cannot completely get rid. Should this be the case, it might be proposed to indemnify Napoleon in Italy,—the little King of Rome might resume his title,—and the whole Bonaparte family take up their final quarters in the country to which they originally belong.

Objections may undoubtedly be started to the probability of both of these speculations; but not strong enough, we think, to deserve notice, should the Allied Sovereigns continue to act upon the ground they appear to have chosen, and proceed in their own persons to set all calculation and decency at defiance. It was *his* weakness,—the weakness, be it observed, of a *strong* man,—which enabled them to seize the moment for triumph over him;—it will be *their* weakness,—the weakness of *weak* men,—which will enable him, if ever he does so, to triumph again in his turn.

NEW PROSPECTUS OF THE EXAMINER.

In coming forward a second time, and after a lapse of seven years, to speak of their Journal and it's intentions, the Proprietors of the *Examiner* cannot but enjoy a sensation not the commonest in the world with writers of a Prospectus. They wish to speak of it with as much modesty as a Prospectus can muster up; but really, those only who have gone through the establishment of a Newspaper, with all the doubts and difficulties to which warm professions and unyielding principles give rise, can well enter into the hour of enjoyment, at which they have arrived. They allude to the consciousness of being no longer under the necessity of *making* professions.

Doubtless, the season of promise and anticipation has it's advantages. Every thing is to be done; nothing has yet been found undone; and the Proprietors, if they are sincere, have at least the enjoyment of revelling in a boundless prospect, which they have not yet experienced the difficulties of reaching, and whose dim outlines and objects they are at full liberty to embody into all sorts of lovely realities,—of golden fields, and nooks of delicious leisure. But still it is an awkward thing to be pointing out and promising to others what they may not be able or inclined to discern, especially after all the disappointments they have incurred on similar occasions; nor although there is classical authority for being sufficiently explicit on the score of one's own merits,—though Ovid and Horace anticipated immortality with as much ease as they might a dinner, and Æneas was in the habit of announcing himself as all that was pious and pre-eminent, can it be perfectly comfortable, in these modern and very modest times, to beg to be looked upon as the best intentioned of people.

It is true, lovers of freedom might be willing to dispense with a two year's imprisonment as the test of their consistency; but if Princes and others insist upon recommending them to the public by this sort of flattering testimony, it is neither very easy nor decorous to avoid the honour; and seriously speaking, when all the benefits are considered, that may accrue both to the Press and the Nation from such a testimony, and that may go on securing our political and consequently domestic comforts time out of mind, even lovers of freedom may not be unambitious to undergo this partial loss of their divine mistress, precisely because they love her most, and would render her name the more flourishing.

Such has been our feeling on this subject when we were most under the pressure of confinement;—it is not likely to lower it's pride, now that we are on the point of enjoying liberty again; and therefore, such as our political sentiments have been, such they will remain. The Public in general are pretty well aware of the nature and objects of our Paper. Like all seven-day Journals, it is partly a Summary of the News and Detail of the Week, partly a Series of Original Essays on Politics and the Town Amusements; but it's main intention is the preservation of that Public Spirit, popularly and properly so called, which priding itself on the independent exercise of a sturdy common sense, and judging inflexibly of every thing by one obvious standard of right and wrong, tends to keep the community in proper condition, as a whole, by teaching every one to feel and assert his own political value, as an individual. The reader therefore will not meet in the *Examiner* with the more customary subjects of political writing,—with perpetual attempts to exalt this or that Party, or with the more skilful but drier investigations of domestic economy. There are plenty of journals to handle matters of this description, and to those it willingly leaves them, the first as foreign to it's spirit, and the second, to speak truly, as out of it's power. But we may safely say, that he will meet in it what scarcely a single other journal contains,—an absolute freedom from all Newspaper corruption and trickery; and that if he is a sound Englishman, who feels that Politics are as triable by the touchstone of common sense and virtue as every thing else, and who wishes to find a Journal carrying out into public the voices of honest men by their fire-sides, he may find it in the *Examiner*. It may seem unnecessary to some, and we hope it does, to dwell so much upon the value of exercising one's ordinary perceptions, and of calling things by their proper names and colours,—of saying that black is black, and one rogue resembles another. They should have been in the habit of reading the daily papers for the last twelvemonth; and they would have begun to suspect that some such good old common places were necessary. When we hear usurpation in one man called legitimate conduct in another,—when frivolous Princes are laughable in Westphalia, and all that's accomplished in England,—when a King is horribly treated if dethroned by a person who speaks French, and justly if dethroned by one who speaks German,—when the spirit of freedom is a good thing in Austria, but a bad thing in Italy,—when the same paper cries out against the entrapping of an individual, and ridicules those who object to the Slave Trade or the entrapment of thousands,—in short, when names take the place of things, and Alliance is a more than Papal absolution for all sorts of appetites and offences,—what are these but so many blinking and candlelight endeavours to confound the bright substance of truth,—to make out that black is *not* black nor white white,—and to prove to us, that every inconsistent reptile, who shifts his own hue, can give what colour he pleases to the sphere of his action! Really at such times, it becomes an original as well as useful thing to be dealing in Truisms. Above all, it is necessary to let these logicians perceive, that the English Public are not to be argued out of their senses, or to mistake themselves for the asses that some may think them.

In the other departments of a Paper of this kind, Theatrical Criticism has, of late years, held the principal place; and it was in particular a favourite department with the readers of the *Examiner*, the Editor of which, in that as well as in a previous Journal, had done something towards increasing the interest of the subject, and exciting an additional attention to it on the part of other Newspapers. Sickness first, and imprisonment afterwards, prevented him, in this instance, from going on as he wished; and it has been not a little unfortunate, that the friend who was engaged to supply his place for the last two years, and who was eminently qualified to do the subject justice, has seen his own wishes thwarted by sickness also. The Editor however is now about to emerge from prison, better in health than when he entered it, and certainly with no diminished inclination for his old and favourite amusements; and it will be his endeavour to restore it's due interest to this part of the Paper. He therefore gives notice to all claimants or intermediate occupiers, that some time in the early part of February next, he means to resume, with a becoming mixture of grace and solemnity, the critical chair in which he was so long accustomed to sit, and from which he was excluded in the first instance by nothing but those

reverses of fortune, to which all sovereignties in this world are liable. He allows the merit of some of his brother authorities,—of one or two in particular; but not to mention that the question of merit, as affecting the right of dominion, is one which they may feel to be too delicate to discuss in these times, he has a right to the throne which by universal consent he himself established; and unless he can be proved to have become absolutely unfit for it, hopes that this plain and at the same time magnanimous declaration, will prevent a needless effusion of inkshed.—On the said evening then in February he expects that every thing will be in due order for his reception,—the Boxes in their best dresses, the Pit submissive, the Gallery silent, the lights brilliant, the music considerate, the doors well-behaved, the performers ingenious. The scenery also he must desire to be in good taste and chronology;—the lightning, if any, will evince a proper dispatch in it's office;—and any actor who shall be slovenly in his speech or stockings, or think more of himself than SHAKSPEARE, or come into a room with his hat on, or ogle the corner cupboard, that is to say, the side-boxes, or be guilty of any other violation of verse or good manners, such as is sometimes to be found in performers really superior to the candlesnuffer, shall do it under the pain and mortification of being looked upon as not the most accomplished and gentlemanly of mankind.—And so, on this point, for the present, we bid that loving part of our subjects farewell.

Deficient as we have lately been however on the theatrical score, we must say for ourselves that the Paper has improved in some other respects,—not perhaps of the same lightness and variety, nor of that *town* description which may be required as a set-off to the business of the State,—but still of great interest, and in some instances, of superior powers of writing to what the readers of a Paper, not vulgar in that respect, had hitherto met with. We allude to the Criticisms on the Members of Parliament by the friend above-mentioned, and to occasional articles on Literary and Philosophical Subjects by another under the signature of W. H. Both of these will be continued. The former, when exhausted, will give place to a similar series, either on the *Ear*, or some other subject between literary and political; and the latter it is in contemplation to reduce to a regular miscellaneous article, like the papers in the *Tatler* and *Spectator*, to which the Editor will contribute in common with his friends, so as to secure one every week. On the utility of such writings it is unnecessary to expatiate,—unless indeed our political reasoners, before alluded to, shall drive us to the necessity of contradicting the beauty of their style as well as their sentiments, and of proving that some taste is better than none, and that he who cares for the relish of what is beautiful will be most likely to keep his faculties in a right health for the enjoyment.

Even in the most inferior corners of our Paper we hope to make some little improvement; and to this end, we propose to enlarge the quantity of the ordinary chit-chat of the week, by printing it towards the close of the Journal in a closer type. This may not look altogether so sightly as a regular distribution of wider print; but in some respects it has always been unavoidable; and we confess we have not been insensible to the representations of many respectable gossips, who complain that in the absence of ham and eggs, [illegible] other stimulating accompaniments of breakfast [illegible] compelled them to renounce, they [illegible] literary and epistolary [illegible] lity of accidents, odd accounts, and fracas,—that they scarcely ever meet, in the *Examiner*, even with a mysterious occurrence, or a lost child, or an odd marriage, or a reasonable pitch from a gig. Perhaps this is not quite a fair representation;—lost children indeed are not to be had every day: and gentlemen, who pitch out of gigs, are often too modest, we suspect, to let their dexterity be known; but we value ourselves rather upon our Births and Marriages, and are not sure that we have not rivalled Mr. KEAN himself in the interesting variety of our Deaths. But be this as it may, we plead guilty to a good part of the charge, and shall do our best to remedy it in the manner above-mentioned.

Nor let our ancient and spectacled friends think they are only getting out of one evil into another by the close print that we speak of; for in *one* point at least the *Examiner* must inevitably be better than it has been for some time past, and that is, in commencing the year with a NEW TYPE. This has long been, we know, a desideratum in the Paper; but the drain upon our means, occasioned by repeated attempts to crush or exhaust us, must be our excuse. The Public indeed would have made good the deficiency, had we suffered them; but we wished to shew our opponents that their very success in one respect would defeat itself to all greater purposes, and that by the strength of a little self-denial, we could resist and rise up from beneath them without a help which might have been misinterpreted. The event has answered our expectations; and the consequence is, that we can now begin as it were again, fresh and vigourous, with an increased spirit from having done our duty, and let us say, with a consciousness that we have added something to the character of the English Press, and to the security of that vital and glorious flame of liberty, which is only to be kept alive, from time to time, at the risk of some sort of personal hazard.

The Eighth Volume of the *Examiner* will commence then on the first Sunday in January, 1815, with a Number, which we should wish to be considered as a specimen, casualties excepted, of the Journal in future, and which will contain, among other more ordinary matter,

An Essay on some Political Subject of the day, headed POLITICAL EXAMINER;—

A Criticism on some subject connected with the Stage, headed THEATRICAL EXAMINER;

A PARLIAMENTARY CRITICISM;—and

The First Number of a series of Articles, comprising subjects of Miscellaneous Interest, Literature, Manners, &c. headed the GENERAL EXAMINER.

The Editor also will do his best to take care that the Paper shall be out at a proper hour, so that the early riser shall have it at the most comfortable time, with his breakfast and fireside. In other respects, we know not that there is any necessity of improvement; and in point of general spirit, the best thing, we trust, that we can say for it, is that it shall not alter a jot.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

PARIS, DEC. 12.—The declaration of the King of Saxony has caused a lively sensation in Germany; a Prince, who never had any other object than the happiness of his subjects, torn from their affections, and precipitated from the throne of his ancestors, excites an interest in all generous minds. When Sovereigns announce in a solemn manner that they act in the name of justice, and that they seek

for nothing but to consolidate the peace of Europe, it may be hoped that they will pay a serious attention to the affecting and energetic reclamations of the King of Saxony, and that they will not belie the principles which they have hitherto professed. After long agitations the want of repose must be felt; and it is less by looking back to the past than in the future that they must look for it.

Dec. 16.—Persons arrived from the Island of Elba have given us the following details respecting Bonaparte:—

"He is of an alarming corpulency; his *embonpoint* increases every day. Madame Letitia, his mother, and the Princess Borghese, his sister, are beside him. His exterior is rather gay than sombre; he has even at times extraordinary fits of gaiety; then he sings so loud as to stun those near him, lays hold of the hands of his mother, whom he calls his *good mother*—his *good mother Lajorie*, and dances to the accompaniment of a song which appears to have been composed by himself. Bonaparte writes much, and does not wish to be interrupted; at such moments no one approaches him. The Mayor of Porto Ferrajo, whom he has made his Chamberlain, and two or three other persons, compose his usual society. He often partakes of the pleasures of the chace with Marshal Bertrand, his Minister of the interior. From time to time he takes long walks along the sea shore, and along Porto Longone. He has still somewhat between 700 and 800 troops, who are very weary of their residence on the Island. Several have already asked and obtained permission to return to France. Reforms are going on in the establishment of Bonaparte. He has still 80 horses in his stables. Towards the end of autumn, a troop of comedians obtained permission to visit the Island of Elba; they gave two representations, at which the Ex-Emperor was present. He is almost always dressed in a uniform stuck full of decorations. It is not true that Bonaparte has coined money. The pieces coined with his effigy, and in circulation in several towns of Italy, seem to have been manufactured on speculation. Madame Letitia was to quit the Island of Elba, to return to Rome."

A cause is soon to be pleaded in the Primary Tribunal, between Louis Bonaparte and the Duchess of St. Leu, his wife, which will keenly excite the public curiosity. Louis Bonaparte demands the custody of his eldest son, and the Duchess will not consent to it.

Bourdeaux, Dec. 11.—Several persons of the town of Langon having assembled, on the 15th of August last, at a public-house, went out in the evening upon the quays, and there set up shouts of—"*Long live Napoleon! The Isle of Elba for ever! Down with the King and the Royalists! The blood-thirsty for ever!*" These exclamations were repeated the following night, and it appears that the seditious paraded the streets of Langon with a fiddler at their head. For this misdemeanour eleven persons were apprehended, and nine of them tried in the Court of Assize. Dulue, fencing-master, and Planty, carpenter, were found guilty; but as their misconduct had not been productive of any consequences, the Court sentenced them both to be banished five years, and to pay the costs of the proceedings. The seven others were acquitted and released.

GERMANY.

Vienna, Dec. 4.—It seems that the dissolution of the marriage of Maria Louisa is certain, because Napoleon presented a false act of consent concerning the repudiation of the Empress Josephine. The Princess Maria Louisa for this reason now consents that the ties thus contracted should be broken. Jerome Bonaparte will remain some time at Trieste.

Dec. 7.—We are assured that the Marshals of France have an agent here in the person of M. Broser de Valensolle, charged with a demand to Congress of indemnities for the possessions they held in Germany, Poland, and Italy, recognized by the Powers, and which have been given to the Princes occupying the countries in which these possessions are situated. It is added that the demand of Prince Berthier is seconded by many of the Princes of Germany, and that Prussia has offered to pay him a very large pension. It is fit to observe that Prince Berthier has married a Princess of Bavaria.

NORTH AMERICA.

Washington, Oct. 27.—Mr. Troup, from the Military Committee, reported a bill making further provision for filling the ranks of the regular army by classifying the free male population of the United States.—Mr. Troup also reported a bill "to authorise the President of the United States to accept the services of volunteers who may associate and organize themselves, and offer their services to the Government of the United States."—Mr. Troup also reported a bill "to provide for the further defence of the frontiers of the United States by authorising the President to augment the present military establishment."—[This bill proposes to provide, that in addition to the present military establishment of the United States, there be immediately raised forty regiments in such proportions of infantry, artillery, riflemen, and cavalry, as the President of the United States may deem proper, to be enlisted to serve during the war, unless sooner discharged, and limited as to service to the defence of the frontiers of the United States, &c. &c."]—The three bills were severally twice read, and referred to a Committee of the whole.

Mr. Troup also laid before the House some explanatory Observations, addressed by the Secretary of War to the Chairman of the Military Committee, from which we make the following extracts:—

"It is confidently presumed, that it is the intention of the British Government, by striking at the principal sources of our prosperity, to diminish the importance, if not to destroy the political existence of the United States. If any doubt remained on this subject, it has been completely removed by the dispatches from our Ministers at Ghent which were lately laid before Congress.

"A nation contending for its existence against an enemy powerful by land and sea, favoured in a peculiar manner by extraordinary events, must make great exertions and suffer great sacrifices. Forced to contend again for our liberties and independence, we are called on for a display of all the patriotism, which distinguished our fellow-citizens in the first great struggle. It may be fairly concluded, that *if the United States sacrifice any right*, or make any dishonourable concession to the demands of the British Government, the spirit of the nation will be broken, and the foundations of their union and independence shaken. *The United States must relinquish no right, or perish in the struggle. There is no intermediate ground to rest on. A concession on one point, leads directly to the surrender of every other.* The result of the contest cannot be doubtful. The highest confidence is entertained that the stronger the pressure, and the greater the danger, the more firm and vigorous will be the resistance, and the more successful and glorious the result.

"It is the avowed purpose of the enemy to lay waste and destroy our cities and villages, and to desolate our coast, of which examples have already been afforded. It is evidently his intention to press the war along the whole extent of our seaboard, in the hope of exhausting equally the spirits of the people, and the national resources. There is also reason to presume, that it is his intention to press the war from Canada on the adjoining States, while attempts are made on the City of New York, and other important points, with a view to the vain project of dismemberment or subjugation. It may be inferred likewise to be a part of the scheme to continue to invade this part of the union, while a separate force attacks the State

of Louisiana, in the hope of taking possession of the city of New Orleans, and of the mouth of Mississippi, that great inlet and key to the commerce of all that portion of the United States lying westward of the Alleghany mountains. The peace in Europe having given to the enemy a large disposable force, has essentially favoured these objects.

"To bring the war to an honourable termination, we must not be content with defending ourselves. Different *feelings* must be touched and *apprehensions excited* in the British Government. By pushing the war into Canada, we secure the friendship of the Indian tribes, and command their services, otherwise to be turned by the enemy against us; we relieve the coast from the desolation which is intended for it, and we keep in our hands a safe pledge for an honourable peace.

It follows, from this view of the subject, that it will be necessary to bring into the field, next campaign, not less than 100,000 regular troops. Such a force, aided in extraordinary emergencies by volunteers and militia, will place us above all inquietude as to the final result of this contest. It will fix, on a solid and imperishable foundation, our union and indepen dence; on which the liberties and happiness of our fellow-citizens so essentially depend. It will secure to the United States an early and advantageous peace. It will arrest in the farther prosecution of the war, the desolation of our cities and our coast, by enabling us to retort on the enemy those calamities which our citizens have been already doomed to suffer; a resort which self defence alone, and a sacred regard for the rights and honour of the nation, could induce the United States to adopt.

"If the United States make the exertion which is proposed, it is probable that the contest will soon be at an end. *It cannot be doubted that it is in their power to expel the British forces from this Continent*, should the British Government, by persevering in its unjust demands, make that an object with the American people. Against our united and vigorous efforts, the resistance of the enemy will soon become light and feeble. Success in every fair and honourable claim is within our easy grasp. And surely the United States have every possible inducement to make the effort necessary to secure it. I should insult the understandings and wound the feelings of the Committee, if I touched on the calamities incident to defeat.

"Dangers which are remote and can never be realized, excite no alarm with a gallant and generous people. But the advantages of success have a fair claim to their deliberate consideration. The effort we have already made has attracted the attention and extorted the praise of other nations. Already have most of the absurd theories and idle speculations on our system of government been refuted, and put down. We are now felt and respected as a power, and it is the dread which the enemy entertains of our resources and growing importance, that has induced him to press the war against us after its professed objects had ceased. Success, by discomfiture of his schemes, and the attainment of an honourable peace, will place the United States on higher ground, in the opinion of the world, than they have held at any former period. In future wars, their commerce will be permitted to take its lawful range unmolested. Their remonstrances to foreign governments will not again be put aside, unheeded—Few will be presented, because there will seldom be occasion for them. Our union, founded on internal affection, will have acquired new strength by the proof it will have afforded, of the important advantages attending it. Respected abroad, and happy at home, the United States will have accomplished the great object for which they have so long contended. As a nation that will have little to dread, as a people that will have little to desire."

EXTRACT OF A GENERAL ORDER, DATED HEAD QUARTERS, NIAGARA, NOV. 6, 1814.

"Lieut.-Gen. Drummond acquaints the troops, that the enemy evacuated Fort Erie yesterday, and retreated to his own shores, having first blown up the defences, and completely destroyed the place."

[*From the Halifax Journal, Oct*, 10.]

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

"SIR,—When I call to mind the warm congratulations on the arrival of Sir George Prevost to be our Governor, about six years ago; our grateful feelings towards the King's Ministers for sending such a man to protect us; the universal satisfaction he gave while amongst us; and the no less universal sorrow expressed by every face and every tongue when we were informed that we must lose him; I can hardly believe myself in the same province, when I read the torrent of low and malignant abuse of his character in last Saturday's *Recorder*. The scribbler who writes the paragraphs in that paper (for nobody suspects the Printer) has long endeavoured, in a covered and oblique way, to prejudice the public against a character which they reverenced and loved; but now having found in our misfortunes at Plattsburgh a delightful repast for his gloomy and venomous spirit, he has put forth all his power of bespattering in the form of paragraphs and essays, under the false signature of *Free Speaker* and *An Englishman*; and so eager was he to fill his columns with his precious stuff, that although he mentions the burial of the brave General Ross, he could not spare room, or quite forget to tell us when, or where, or how he died. For any thing the readers of the *Recorder* will find in it, he may have fallen in a duel or died of a fever. But it was doubtless a more suitable employment for the Editor of the Acadian *Recorder* to criticise the campaigns of the Commander-in-Chief, than to give us *any* account of the attempt on Baltimore, or the fall of the gallant associate of Duke Wellington. And what is the amount of his criticism?—Why even this, that Sir George Prevost was a great fool to make his operations by land depend upon operations by water. This the candid and acute Writer of the *Recorder's* paragraphs calls "*depending on chance*," nay, "*trusting to miracles*." Really! Is it trusting to miracles that a flotilla of ninety-three guns, manned by Britons, might beat one manned with Americans, carrying eighty-six? If this be thought a miracle, it is a very poor compliment to our Navy. Or would this wiseacre have us think it a *new* thing for a Commander on land to combine his movements with those of an attending Naval force? Did not the lamented General Ross do so in the Chesapeake? Is it not stated in your paper of yesterday, on the authority of an Officer present, that our army would have made a serious attack on Baltimore, if the ships attending could have forced the batteries at the entrance of the Harbour? Sir A. Cochrane could not effect impossibilities, and the army retraced its steps. There is surely no need to multiply examples of what may be called the ordinary mode of British warfare. But one occurs to me which took place in the very same scene of action: Sir Guy Carleton (perhaps as good a General as the Editor of the Acadian *Recorder*) invading the revolted Colonies in 1776, by Lake Champlain, did not, as this sage planner of campaigns would have Sir George to do, wait until his fleet had tried his strength with that of the enemy; but trusting to chance and miracles, he brought his whole army, step for step, along with it. Nor need we doubt, if that fleet had been destroyed by Arnold on the 11th and 13th of October, instead of utterly defeating his, the Gallant General would have immediately retreated into Canada, as Sir George Prevost has done, which the Recording General calls a disgraceful retreat; since Sir Guy, even after a complete victory, did actually so retreat, rather than risk his army's wintering in that situation. In the following year General Burgoyne followed the same course, his flotilla attending his army. Whilst he operated in conjunction with his vessels he was successful; when he parted from them he and his army were made prisoners. If this was the fate of General Burgoyne, in 1777, when Vermont, on one side of the Lake, had but a few scattered inhabitants, and New York, on the other, had none at all, it is easy to see what Sir George's fate would have been, if with an army no stronger than Burgoyne's, and without a navy, he had been so ignorant, or rather mad, as to think of penetrating those countries, which now swarm with men like bee-hives. We may venture to assert; that the Duke of Wellington could not march from Plattsburg to New York, with less than 30,000. These his country has not thought fit to give him, though she might. She has not made him superior by water to the paltry flotillas of the enemy, though she is the greatest naval power in the world. In short, as in 75 and 76, Sir Guy Carleton, with a handful of men, saved Canada to the Crown of Britain, and has ill-

used for his pains; so Sir George Prevost, in 1812, 13, has saved it to the Crown again, by his popularity, his vigilance, and talents; and with a handful of Regulars and his Canadian Militia, has captured several invading Generals and their armies. And he has now retreated within his Province, as Carleton did, to save it again. He is not, indeed, like Carleton, ill-treated by the Ministry. He enjoys their utmost confidence, and that of his Prince, who as he wrote with his own hand to Wellington, so did he lately to the Governor-General of Canada, expressing his full satisfaction with his conduct. This may, perhaps, console him, though a base libeller in the *Recorder* should say he has neither talents nor merit, nor has performed any services; and moreover, that his mother was a Republican."

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

IMPROVEMENTS IN AGRICULTURE.—It has often been observed that the science of Agriculture is yet in its infancy; and if the little attention paid by the practical farmer to the chemical analysation of soils be a proof of this assertion, the fact must be admitted. The discoveries, too, which are daily made of new and improved modes of ameliorating the vegetating qualities of soils, afford also a strong corroboration of what is still to be done in the increase of the produce of land. Of such discoveries one of the most remarkable is the application of bones as a manure; for though such a practice has been adopted sometime in a few southern countries, it was reserved for one enterprizing individual (Mr. Grace of Scotswood) to prove its value and importance in the north of England. This gentleman having ascertained its superior qualities, as a manure, on a small scale, erected a machine to crush bones, with a view to supply other farmers with the article at a moderate price; but there was so much ridicule thrown upon the scheme that very few were induced to make a trial of its efficacy. Those who have tried it, however, have experienced such decisive advantages from its application, that all doubts and suspicions have been removed. To prove its superiority, several fields which were manured upon the old principle, and with bones, and were sown with turnip seed, were last week examined by two of the most respectable judges in the country, and the produce of turnips upon the fields prepared with bone manure, was at least double the crops over those manured in the old way. By this new method, merely time and labour are not only saved, but the crops are infinitely superior, and what adds greatly to the value of the discovery is, that the bone manure occupies so little room, that one horse and cart may accomplish as much work as six would require upon the old method.—*Tyne Mercury.*

A few weeks since, a trading vessel laden with corn, from Cardigan, in Wales, was taken in the Channel, by an American privateer. When the Captain went into the cabin to survey his prize he espied a little box with a hole in the top, similar to that which tradesmen have in their counters, through which they drop their money; at the sight of which, he seemed not a little surprised, and said to the Welsh Captain "Captain, what is this?" pointing to the box with his stick. "Oh!" said the honest Cambrian, "'tis all over now."—"What," said the American captain—"Why the truth is," said the Welch captain, "that I and my poor fellows have been accustomed every Monday morning to drop a penny each into that box, for the purpose of sending out Missionaries *to preach the Gospel to the Heathen*, but it is all over now." "Ah!" said the American captain, "that is very good;"—and after pausing a few minutes, he said, "Captain, I'll not hurt a hair of your head, nor touch your vessel." The pious Welshman, was accordingly allowed to pursue his voyage unmolested.—*West Briton.*

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ENLARGED.

J. R. Wilkin, Holborn-hill, linen-draper, from Dec. 17, to Feb. 4.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Rowland, Bramshott, Southamptonshire, dealer. Attorney; Mr. Allen, Clifford's-inn.

T. Wagstaff, Sandy, Bedfordshire, carpenter. Attorney, Mr. Hurd, Temple.

J. Hewett and J. Hopkins, Warminster, grocers. Attorney; Mr. Davies, Lothbury.

D. Bolford, Taunton, grocer. Attornies, Messrs. Blake and Son, Cook's-court, Carey-street.

P. Stephenson, Leicester, hawker. Attorney, Mr. Goodhall, Wellingborough.

G. Bellairs, Leicester, banker. Attornies, Messrs. Edmunds and Jeyes, Chancery-lane.

T. Wheatley, Greenwich, liveryman. Attorney, Mr. Parker, Greenwich.

S. Smith, Deptford, baker. Attorney, Mr. Sandon, Deptford.

S. Whiteley, jun. Liverpool, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Leigh, Poultry.

J. Browell, Coal-Exchange, coal-factor. Attorney, Mr. Atcheson, Great Winchester-street.

R. Pocock, Kilmiston, blacksmith. Attornies, Messrs. Sherwin, and Hall, Great James-street.

R. Stone, Garsington, farmer. Attorney, Mr. Holmes, Great James-street.

T. Taylor, Shipton-under-Whichwood, publican. Attorney; Mr. Tarn, Warnford-court.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCIES ENLARGED.

S. Clarke, Commercial-road, hoop-bender, from Dec. 27, to Jan. 10.

J. Lovegrove, Horsemonger-lane, rod-merchant, from Dec. 27, to Jan. 10.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. Harding, White-cross-street, victualler.

BANKRUPTS.

W. Cottrell, Chichester, saddler. Attorney, Mr. Clarke, Saddler's-hall, Cheapside.

J. Sharp, Croydon, market-gardener. Attorney, Mr. Penfold, Croydon.

J. Browel, Coal Exchange, coal-factor. Attorney, Mr. Atcheson, Great Winchester-street.

T. Savage, jun. Westbourne, Sussex, dealer in hay. Attorney, Mr. Clare, Emsworth.

W. Brown, Terling, Essex, grocer. Attornies, Messrs. Wood and Clarke, Castle-court, Budge-row.

W. Sheppard, Bristol, bookseller. Attorney, Mr. Cruison, Bristol.

R. C. Serle, Saffron-Walden, Essex, upholsterer. Attornies, Messrs. Rosser and Son, Red Lion-square.

J. Stephenson, Dorset-street, Mary-le-bone, plumber. Attorney, Mr. Willingham, Great Mary-le-bone-street.

J. D. Kenworthy, Manchester, dealer. Attorney, Mr. Hadfield, Manchester.

W. Restill, Allisley, Warwickshire, butcher. Attorney, Mr. Wilmot, Coventry.

T. Finch, Southampton, seedsman. Attorney, Mr. Barney, Southampton.

W. Banks, Bradeley, Staffordshire, engineer. Attorney, Mr. Parker, Stafford.

T. Cochran, York, glover. Attornies, Messrs. Brooke and Bulmer, York.

D. Armitage, Huddersfield, York, innkeeper. Attorney, Mr. Blackburn, Huddersfield.

D. Bloom, Norwich, merchant. Attorney, Mr. Rackham, Norwich.

J. Fisher, Cheltenham, carpenter. Attorney, Mr. Whatley, Cirencester.

D. Sellers, Fetter-lane, oilman. Attorney, Mr. Lee, Three-Crown-court, Southwark.

G. Parsons, Edgeware-road, coal-merchant. Attorney, Mr. Pasmore, Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street.

Lord STANHOPE will be the next PARLIAMENTARY PORTRAIT.

A BRITISH YEOMAN's Communication has been received and shall appear.

CRITICAL NOTICES of all our best living Artists (Painters, Sculptors, and Engravers) will shortly be commenced.

Mr. BACON's Sculptural Exhibition, and Mr. LANDSEER's 1st No. of *The Antiquities of Dacca*, next week.

We intended publishing the Letter of MERCATOR W. as a curious specimen of grave mistake; but from the general friendliness of it, determined otherwise. He does not seem to know the difference between a grave face and a face in earnest.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons..... shut | Omnium ..... 2¼ dis.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, DECEMBER 25.

NOTHING yet of the Congress. There was a gracious intimation indeed from a writer in one of the German Papers, —a person perhaps intimate with the cousin of a valet of one of the Ministers, or with a hair-dresser who had seen some diplomatist look conclusive that morning,—that the Assembly was about to close; but this rumour like all the rest was negatived by subsequent proceedings. It is now asserted however, in some quarter, that there are serious intentions of restoring the King of SAXONY, and that communications were frequent between him and the Austrian Court;—yet this is again denied by the journals under Prussian influence, which talk of the annexation of Saxony as a certain thing, and are very loud in insisting upon it's propriety, if it were only as a reward for the King of PRUSSIA's noble conduct in adversity! There is no end certainly to the inconsistencies of human beings in any sphere or profession; but politicians beat even the bar at these grave contradictions. They do not see that a man's conduct must have been the reverse of noble in adversity, who proposes to reward himself for it at the expence of a new sufferer. What there was noble in the King of PRUSSIA's behaviour under misfortune, the world has yet to learn. They thought him patient indeed,—and this, inasmuch as it implies a power over the will and temper, may be called noble; but patience is not the virtue of a man who is prepared to abuse the first moment of his prosperity. *If* the King of PRUSSIA shall eventually act as he seems inclined to have done, and as these wretched hirelings would encourage him to do, we repeat, that the world, which sees him a tyrant in good fortune, will conclude him to have been nothing but a coward in bad.

The Emperor ALEXANDER, in contradiction to the assertions mentioned in our last Sunday's paper, appears to have been still at Vienna at the beginning of the month. The pains taken also by some of the German papers, to prove that there has been a perpetual and entire harmony between him and the Emperor FRANCIS, would go far to do away the reports of a different nature, if such pains, by their very nature and the particular tone and character of their arguments did not go still farther to make us believe them. It is stated triumphantly, that the two Emperors have repeatedly declared before others, that they were indissolubly united. Perhaps so,—but what put them so often upon performing this loving ceremony? The talk of "indissoluble union" between monarchs is a pretty pastoral imitation, of which the world have lately heard quite enough. The Emperors of Russia and Austria are now indissolubly united; those of Russia and *France* were indissolubly united but the other day; and just before that, the Emperor of RUSSIA was indissolubly united with the King of PRUSSIA, nay, swore to the sacredness of the knot over the tomb of the "*Great*" FREDERICK, who kidnapped his neighbours. We wonder that the very dust of that ingenious scoundrel did not put forth one of his jokes on the occasion. The consequence, we believe, of this indissoluble connexion, was the before-mentioned connexion equally indissoluble with France, which procured Russia some pretty things at the Prussian's expense. And so much for the fairy mazes of this true lover's knot.

The other rumours of the week are that the conferences between England and America at Ghent are finally broken off in hostility,—that the King of SPAIN has been compelled by the indignation of his subjects to fly from Madrid, —and that Baron KOLLER, the Austrian General who accompanied BONAPARTE to Elba, has returned, or is about to return thither with a final arrangement for divorcing NAPOLEON and LOUISA.

On the first subject we have but little, except that when we consider feelings and appearances on all sides, we think such a result very likely, happen when it may. The subject was always a most disagreeable one to us, and we fear, that there never was any great use in handling it, involving as the war does an angry consciousness of error on both sides, and arising, we are quite convinced, still more from direct personal feelings in the ruling parties on both sides, than from any thing else. Jobbers, interested in other ways, may be equally loud and angry against the Americans, and the *Times* may relieve the superabundance of it's gall and absurdity by filling whole columns with invectives, which nobody but the said jobbers peruse;—but the general public feeling is certainly not excited towards the question; there is something too petty and personal about it, especially after the great game that has been lately played; and added to this, there is now a humiliating feeling that the Ministers, by the extravagance of their pretensions and the equally extravagant folly of their mode of conducting the war, have hurt the fine attitude that England had just taken in the eyes of the world. Their American warfare is forcibly calculated to bring back to mind the worst and most ignorant feature in all their former politics,—the deadly expedition to Walcheren.

Of the flight of the King of SPAIN from Madrid we can only say the same thing as of the rupture of these negociations,—that it is very probable, come when it may. The absurd and tormenting sort of anarchy which he has introduced into his own arbitrary Government, by chang-

ing his Ministers over and over again at a moment's notice, and committing people to prison day after day without the shadow of a trial, can only end in confusion of every kind. From what escapes of this conduct of his through the crevices of that darkness in which he would shut up all Spain, and from what we hear of his personal pryings about in all quarters, we cannot but conclude that the poor creature is out of his senses; and this is the only reflection which prevents us from giving vent to those expressions of ridicule and indignation which such conduct would otherwise call forth.

The remaining report,—the divorce of BONAPARTE and the Empress, we confess we do not reckon so probable. It is an "indissoluble union" of a little firmer description than the ones above-mentioned. In the first place, the late Empress is now dead;—in the second, there is a child in the way; thirdly, we do not believe that the Empress herself, the mother of that child, wishes it, more especially after what has been stated in some papers relative to the consent she had given at last upon being shewn that JOSEPHINE's consent in the first instance was fictitious;—these bungling after-thoughts always make a story suspicious;—fourthly and lastly, it still remains to be proved to us that the messages between Vienna and the Isle of Elba are not of a friendly instead of a hostile nature, and that BONAPARTE, in fact, is not at this minute in a state of hope and exultation. Some accounts, it is true, tell us that he is very ill; but others say, that he is heartily well and extravagantly merry,—carrying before him a corpulency as contented as HUME's himself, and indulging himself every now and then in taking his mother by the hands and leading her dancing about to a tune of his own composition. Be these stories what they may, it appears certain from the unanimous accounts of those who actually visit him, that he is generally in a state of excellent health and spirits; and the consequence is, either that he must be a greater man than he ever yet proved himself to bear his tremendous reverse of fortune so cheerfully; or that his merriment is mere desperation,—which, by the bye, would not be likely to let him grow fat,—or finally, that he still has hopes of no ordinary description, and adds another dancer more than they are aware of to the honest enjoyers of the Congress.

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Yesterday arrived Paris Papers of Tuesday and Wednesday last, containing articles to the 10th from Vienna. More than fifty couriers were sent off in all directions with important resolutions respecting Poland and Germany.—Russia and Prussia are said to have proposed three plans relative to Saxony;—the first was to unite it to Prussia; the second to change its dynasty and detach some of its provinces; the third to leave the present King only 7 or 800,000 subjects at most. Prussia has likewise proposed to give to that King the Duchies of Berg, Cleves, and Juliers, on condition of his entirely renouncing Saxony. It was reported that Russia and Prussia are not on good terms with each other, nor with the other Powers, concerning the dismemberments which Prussia demands under the title of Indemnities.—The last dispatches received by Lord CASTLEREAGH, are said to contain orders to sustain the interests of the King of SAXONY.—The impolitic and baneful effect in disturbing the peace of Europe—the deep indignation of every German attached to his native Government, the general sentiments of disgust that must prevail in every just and thinking mind in Germany, respecting the gross views of the chief Sovereigns at the Vienna Congress, are all tolerably apparent from one specimen of them contained throughout an energetic Protest of the Grand Duke of BADEN against the limitation of his sovereignty and independence. The following is part of the Protest:—"His Royal Highness cannot comprehend *how five German Princes* can conclude from the Treaty agreed to at Frankfort between the High Allies, *that they possess* the right of legislating for the rest. The rank and dignities, the political and family relations, the extent and population of the Grand Duchy of Baden, but particularly the sacrifices which it made for delivering the country from a foreign yoke, authorized the Grand Duke to flatter himself with quite another perspective than that of having broken *foreign chains* in order to wear perhaps *others* which will be *domestic*. His Royal Highness wishing to leave no doubt as to the intentions which animate him, has expressly ordered his Minister to declare solemnly and unreservedly to Prince METTERNICH, that the Grand Duke will *never consent to renounce the rank which he has hitherto occupied among the first Princes of Germany*, and consequently he will never abandon to *certain Members* of the Germanic Body, the exercise of rights *exclusively belonging to that Confederation.*"—Though orders had been given respecting the departure of the Emperor of RUSSIA and King of PRUSSIA, it is said that they will continue at Vienna six weeks.—The Emperor and Empress of AUSTRIA were not present at the fete given by Count RAZOUMOUSKY, in honour of the Russian Grand Duchess CONSTANTINE. Most of the foreign Monarchs at Vienna have been indisposed. Their conduct there has sickened all honest minds. Let them be cautious that the deaths of their short-lived characters of integrity, are not succeeded by losses which weak and base minds hold, in common with all flagitious robbers, more dear than character.

French Funds 72¼; Bank Actions 118 7½; Treasury Bills 3½ discount.

A Neapolitan Article announces the early advance of the Neapolitan army, a movement supposed to be concerted with the Austrian Government.

Accounts from Porto Ferrajo intimate that the PRINCE of PEACE was about to take up his residence in the Isle of Elba.

An estimate has been made, that in the Senate of the United States there must be, for two or three years at least, a decided Republican majority.

The doors of the gaol of the city of New York (the capital, in fact, of the United States), for three weeks previous to the 26th of November, were daily thrown open, there not being a prisoner, either debtor or felon, confined therein.

From Oct. 1813, to Oct. 1814, (one year), nearly 1200 bankrupts have appeared in the London Gazettes.

Joanna Southcott was yesterday reported to be dead.

We are sorry to state (says a Dublin Paper) that a duel was fought on Wednesday at Marlborough-green, between two Gentlemen of the Law, which terminated fatally, one of the Gentlemen, Mr. P., having been mortally wounded.

The Dublin audiences, it seems, are following the accomplished examples furnished by those of London. On the 16th, there was a terrible riot at the Dublin Theatre, and for what reason? Because truly one raree-show was substituted for another—the *Miller and his Men* for the *Dog of Montargis!* The owner of the chief performer had withdrawn his services, as the Manager would not submit to his extravagant demands. The consequence was, that all apology was refused, the seats were torn up, the performers pelted with all sorts of missiles, the chandeliers, lamps, &c. broken, and the females alarmed and driven from the house. The Viceroy and his Lady were present when the tumult commenced.

Lord French.—The day after the death of this Nobleman, a Coroner's Inquest was held on the body, and a verdict of "Insanity" returned. Had the unhappy man been in the humble instead of the elevated walk of life, he would most likely have been deemed "sane," and have been barbarously buried in the highway with a stake through his body! Any verdict however may be deemed better than one which leads to results at once so stupid in itself, so afflicting to relatives, and so disgusting to every body.

On Thursday, at the rising of the Court of Chancery, Lady D—— came into Court, and, walking up to the Register, sitting under his Lordship, presented two pieces of parchment to his Lordship, which were handed to the Register to read to her Ladyship. They were articles of the peace, exhibited by the lady against her noble husband. A motion was made by a young Barrister, after the reading, for an order to the Master, to hold the husband to sureties in one thousand or fifteen hundred pounds to keep the peace towards his wife, and cited a precedent in point, adding, that the husband in this case was worth at present 15,000*l.* a year, with considerable expectancies in future. His Lordship having himself read the articles, ordered the sureties to be taken in the sum of 1,500*l.* The lady withdrew, and joining her female attendant at the door of the seat, retired through the Lord Chancellor's private passage to the Court. This was the first instance of the kind we remember, and was owing to the rank of the parties and privilege of the Peerage, since such articles are taken usually before the Judges of the King's Bench or ordinary Magistrates.

The late Dr. Darwin, some years ago, published a circumstantial account of the "Upas, or Poison Tree," with the manner of the fatal gum being taken by criminals in the island of Java; it is now proved to a certainty, that no such tree is in existence, at least, in that island.

A Gentleman who had every appearance of being an Officer in the Army, was found wounded and insensible, on Saturday week, in the road at Clifton, near Bristol, who it was supposed was robbed and thus ill-treated. He still remains incapable of giving the least account of himself, or by what means he came into the deplorable situation in which he was discovered.

All the letters from the out ports speak of the tremendous gales that have blown for some days past, and apprehend that considerable damage will be done, particularly on the Eastern coast.

On Tuesday, the Lord Mayor ordered the price of Bread to remain the same as last week.

Spots of ink, it is well known, will absolutely ruin the finest linen.—Lemon juice will by no means answer the purpose of taking them out: the spots, indeed, disappear; but the malignity of the ink still adheres to the linen; it corrodes it: and a hole never fails to appear some time after in the part where the spot was made. Would you wish for remedy equally certain, without being subject to the same inconvenience?—Take a mould candle (the tallow of which is commonly of the finest kind), melt it, and dip the spotted part of the linen in the melted tallow; then put it to the wash. It will come perfectly white from the hands of the laundress, and there will be no hole in the spotted part.—This experiment has been tried often, and always attended with success.—*Country Paper.*

COURT AND FASHIONABLES.

It is very singular that the papers should call the future Duchess of Cumberland Princess *Salm*; her name is Solms-Braunfels. There are two branches of that house; the other is Solms-Lich or Hohensolms. Of the Princes of Salm there are three branches, viz. Salm-Salm, Salm-Kyrburg, and Salm-Reiferscheid. There is not the least connection between the Salms and the Solms; the first are of the Catholic, and the last of the reformed persuasion.—Prince Solms died on the 15th Dec. 1812.—*Chronicle.*

The Countess of Roseberry sojourned at the Old Ship tavern, in Brighton, three days previous to her departure, with Sir H. Mildmay, for the Continent. She came from London in a carriage and four, and during her stay at the inn observed the utmost seclusion. She had two female attendants, who stiled her "my lady," but in other respects she was perfectly *incog.* Sir H. Mildmay arrived the third day, in a post chaise and four, and was known at the tavern only as Mr. St. John. On the following day the party set off for Newhaven, and took their passage for Dieppe.

"One of those trials, too common in England, and which appear to us with reason as offensive to honour as contrary to good morals, fills almost the whole of the English Journals of the 12th. The Earl of Rosebery brought an action against the Baronet Mildmay, for criminal conversation with plaintiff's wife, and estimated his honour at the amount of 30,000*l.* The Jury assembled to assess the damages did not, however, estimate the honour of the noble Lord at the price he had set upon it, but thought it sufficiently indemnified by the sum of 13,000*l.*"—*Journal des Debats.*

FINE ARTS.

PORTRAIT OF SHAKSPEARE.

A fine portrait, supposed to be that of Shakspeare, and painted by Federigo Lucchero, a celebrated Artist of Shakspeare's age, has been discovered in the following manner:—A Picture-cleaner, who had purchased some old pannels at a broker's shop, found on one the resemblance of a head, which he thought worth the trouble of cleaning. This was carefully done, and on it's being submitted to several Connoisseurs and Artists, little doubt remained that it was a genuine picture of Shakspeare from the life. It was afterwards purchased by and now is in the possession of Mr. Dunford, of Great Newport-street, who intends publishing a print from it of the same size as the picture. In the opinion of many persons, there are some striking coincidences between this portrait and the half length statue on Shakspeare's monument at Stratford, which is said by Langbaine to be "his *true* effigies."

CHARACTER BY SIR THOMAS OVERBURY.*

"A fair and happy Milk-maid is a country wench, that is so far from making herself beautiful by art, that one look of hers is able to put all face-physic out of countenance. She knows a fair look is but a dumb orator to commend virtue, therefore minds it not. All her excellences stand in her so silently, as if they had stolen upon her without her knowledge. The lining of her apparel (which is herself) is far better than outsides of tissue: for though she be not arrayed in the spoil of the silk-worm, she is decked in innocency, a far better wearing. She doth not, with lying long a-bed, spoil both her complexion and conditions. Nature hath taught her, too immoderate sleep is rust to the soul: she rises therefore with chaunticleer, her dame's cock, and at night makes the lamb her curfew. In milking a cow, and straining the teats through her fingers, it seems that so sweet a milk-press makes the milk the whiter or sweeter; for never came almond-glove or aromatic ointment near her palm to taint it. The golden ears of corn fall and kiss her feet, when she reaps them, as if they wished to be bound and led prisoners by the same hand that felled them. Her breath is her own, which scents all the year long of June, like a new-made haycock. She makes her hand hard with labour, and her heart soft with pity: and when winter evenings fall early (sitting at her merry wheel) she sings a defiance to the giddy wheel of Fortune. She doth all things with so sweet a grace, it seems ignorance will not suffer her to do ill, being her mind is to do well. She bestows her year's wages at next fair; and in chusing her garments, counts no bravery in the world like decency. The garden and bee-hive are all her physic and chirurgery, and she lives the longer for't. She dares go alone, and unfold sheep in the night, and fears no manner of ill, because she means none: yet, to say the truth, she is never alone, for she is still accompanied with old songs, honest thoughts, and prayers, but short ones; yet they have their efficacy, in that they are not pulled with ensuing idle cogitations. Lastly, her dreams are so chaste, that she dare tell them; only a Friday's dream is all her superstition; that she conceals for fear of anger. Thus lives she; and all her care is she may die in the spring-time, to have store of flowers stuck upon her winding-sheet."

* Sir Thomas Overbury, a polite English writer, was born 1581, and memorable for his tragical end, having fallen a sacrifice to the intrigues of an infamous statesman and his lascivious mistress, afterwards his wife. He was poisoned in the Tower, in 1613, by order of Robert Car, Earl of Rochester, and the Countess of Essex, for opposing the scheme of divorcing the Countess from the Earl of Essex, and marrying her to Rochester, which was accomplished after Overbury's murder. Sir Thomas was the author of several works in verse and prose, which were reprinted in 1753.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON.

Mr. Examiner,—It is highly unjust to expose and exaggerate every thing that is faulty in a character, and conceal what is praise-worthy. No person has ever suffered more from this sort of injustice than the Emperor Napoleon; great pains have been taken in this country to represent him as incapable of acting with humanity and generosity: with what *truth*, the following well authenticated anecdotes will shew:—

The two brothers Polignac were detected in a conspiracy to take away his life; the eldest was taken and condemned to death; upon which the younger, who had made his escape, returned, and delivered himself up, requesting, if possible, he might suffer instead of his brother, who was the father of a family. Bonaparte was so struck with this generous conduct, that he freely pardoned *both* the brothers. Yet these ungrateful men, when the Allies invaded France, immediately joined their standard, and fought against their benefactor!

At Boulogne, when Bonaparte had injudiciously ordered the ships out to sea during a storm, and many were driven on shore, he saved the lives of several sailors with his own hands, wading up to the middle, and dragging them on shore!

He frequently visited the sick in military hospitals, when afflicted with contagious fevers.—At Toulon, Bonaparte risked his own life, by venturing up the stairs of a house on fire to rescue a sick officer from the flames!—When at Berlin, a Swiss was implicated in a plot to assassinate him; the wife of this Gentleman went to Bonaparte to plead in his behalf; he heard her with great patience, and then shewed her a letter which she immediately knew to be her husband's hand-writing; she was thunderstruck, and in the utmost consternation and distress: Bonaparte desired her to compose herself, said the contents of the letter were known only to *himself*, and he should not expose it, and threw the letter into the fire!

Veritas.

THEATRICAL EXAMINER.

No. 185.

COVENT-GARDEN.

The *Mrs. Beverley* of Miss O'Neill seems to us the most finished specimen of simple elegance and unaffected pathos that is to be found on the stage. The personation of the same character by Mrs. Siddons, had in it one or two speeches of sublimity infinitely beyond the reach of Miss O'Neill, and we think, very little in unison with the intention of the author of the play. Miss O'Neill never o'erstepped the modesty of common life, and therefore, in our opinion, gave a more accurate portrait. For what is *Mrs. Beverley?* Simply a lady in genteel life, without any particular eminence of understanding, or energy of determination; from habit, or whatever other cause, devotedly attached to a tolerably worthless husband, and with all other feelings so merged in this affection, that, with the imbecility of judgment ever produced by an absorbing sentiment, she thinks that her existence hangs on that only thread. Such a woman will necessarily be all that is amiable, and gentle, and soft, and tender; but what has she to do with vigour? She will feel that all her strength consists in kind accommodation, and that to be irresistible she must yield. Over this character, however, Mrs. Siddons threw an air of grandeur which was as false as it was impressive,

and Miss O'Neill has been most unjustly blamed for deviating from a faulty model. The scene in which she is supposed to have chiefly failed, is where she repels *Stukely's* infamous assault upon her honour; and here we will allow that Mrs. Siddons exhibited an energy of passion which was truly awful. Certainly it was a noble spectacle to see a scoundrel almost annihilated by the piercing scorn and flashing indignation of the person whom he proposes to injure; and those ladies are exceedingly to be congratulated who can use those weapons with such tremendous effect against a seducer. But what is the real state of the case? Is every virtuous woman necessarily endued with the same powers as Mrs. Siddons? Does every woman who is fond of her husband possess, as matter of course, the same majesty of form, the same fiery eye, the same terrific intonation of voice? Is it any where written in the text that *Mrs. Beverley* was such a woman? We would lay a wager she was not. The fancy-characters of authors are generally tolerably consistent—the mind and the person are generally cast in the same mould; a soft heart with them always implies a delicate figure; and affection, with them, must ever reside in a countenance full of graceful smiles, in a form rounded with such a yielding lubricity, that not a single angle shall appear that might indicate a symptom of resistance or active strength. We will go farther and say, that if Mrs. Siddons and Miss O'Neill had been presented to the author as counterparts of his fancied original, he would have said of the first—"that is really a noble lady, and fills one's mind with ideas of the old heroic ages; her intellect and spirit are beyond me; it is not in my feeble power to write up to her standard: but that smiling presence there, that looks about her with such an air of gentleness, and moves herself with a gracefulness so unpretending, she, if she pleases, shall be my *Mrs. Beverley*." Indeed Miss O'Neill seems to us throughout to have formed a right conception of the character; she is a mere affectionate appendage of her husband, and seems incapable of suffering or feeling, except as she is connected with him. When *Stukely* makes his infernal proposal to her, and by the way with an abruptness which is almost ludicrous, she displays indeed a momentary burst of horror and indignation, but her feelings almost immediately recur to her husband, and leave scarcely any room for any other emotion. This we believe to have been the intention of the author, and if it is so, Miss O'Neill has embodied it to the life. At the same time we must say, that if this passage ought to be given in the grand style of Mrs. Siddons, then Miss O'Neill could not represent it; for her face has no capacity of energetic expression, and her voice loses all its melody when raised above an ordinary pitch. Her force, as we have before remarked, is in sobs and tears: they are more genuine than any we ever witnessed on the stage, and never fail to excite the warmest sympathy. But we must just hint that the sobs and tears may be rendered pleasing, screams and hysteric convulsions cannot: she should recollect that they are painful and even disgusting infirmities, and not hope to excite an interest of pity by means so replete with horror.

Mr. Young's performance of *Beverley* was a piece of elegant mediocrity, once or twice heightened by a vigorous and impassioned expression, but for the most part languid and even tame. The *Stukely* of Mr. Terry was too elaborate: at least he let his art appear too much: he looked generally as he ought to have looked, and spoke as he ought to have spoken, but there was too much preparation: you could tell half a minute before-hand, that the next speech was to be villainous and the next look sagacious. As a whole, it wanted connection: the parts were judiciously fabricated, but they were not skilfully dovetailed.

Upon the whole the play is rather a dull one; it does not contain a single thought or expression, either vigorous or brilliant; the incidents are clumsy, and the characters, except *Mrs. Beverley*, have not a single characteristic trait. Perhaps the want of interest in the conduct of the play may be attributable to the subject: who but a gamester can sympathize with the woes of a gamester? his infatuation has nothing human about it; we can sympathize with love, with hate, with ambition, with jealousy, because these are passions which all may feel; but the rapacious thirst for money is one of those unnatural appendages which common nature cannot understand, nor see without unpitying contempt. The miseries springing from such a source may be as acute and as real as any other human afflictions, but men are not accustomed to take any interest in a sorrow of which the sources are not intelligible to every heart.

We have carried this article to too great length to notice Miss Walstein in the manner which we think necessary.

GENERAL VIEW of the ARGUMENTS in FAVOUR of an AMELIORATION of the PENAL LAWS.

[*Continued from page* 622.]

1. By the very circumstance of its not being executed, it is declared in fact that it ought not to be enacted; for the enacting a punishment is a declaration that such punishment is just and necessary, and the not executing it is a declaration that it is neither just nor necessary. The law is thus accessary to a falsehood, and plays at fast and loose with itself.

2. If the law is enacted, but not enforced, this must be either to such a degree as to take away the terror of the law, and convert it into a mockery, or if the terror still remains, it will inspire aversion as well as fear, and will operate to the injury of the moral sense of the community.

3. These two evils will be united, for though the bare existence of the law, as a supposed standard and measure of justice, will be sufficient to shock, to deaden, and confound the ideas of right and wrong in the community, yet the knowledge that it is not executed will be a constant inducement to the more daring and desperate part of the community to set it at defiance. Familiarity will soon disarm the law of its borrowed terrors with respect to those who have occasion to come near and look more closely into the consequences of guilt, while, to the public in general who view it only at a distance, it will retain all the features of a serious and disgusting reality. That is, the influence of the law, as a mere formal denunciation, is just sufficient to vitiate the public taste and the tone of moral sentiment, without being strong enough to deter the needy and hardened from practical guilt. With respect to these therefore, that is, practically speaking, it is thrown away, so that all the harm it does as a standard of opinion and guide to the understanding, is incurred at a pure loss, without answering any end at all.

4. It is not a sufficient answer to the foregoing reason-

ing to say, that though the law is not enforced according to the strict letter, yet the offender does not escape with impunity, the punishment being merely transmuted to some lower one—because when one punishment is held out, and another inflicted, the former serves to divert the mind from the latter, is a sort of screen for the imagination; and the chance of escaping the higher punishment, and thus baffling and triumphing over the impotent malice of the law, engrosses the attention, whets the invention, and tempts the audacity of the malefactor to grapple with the law, and disarm it of its mock-terrors. "Let them do their worst," he says, "they can only transport or they can only imprison, instead of hanging me, as they pretend." Whereas, if that worst had been all that was threatened to be done, its effect would not have been taken off by being contrasted with a greater punishment; it would have shewn that the inclination of the law to punish was not greater than its power, and would not have given occasion for that contempt and spirit of defiance, which all attempts to terrify into compliance, which all assumptions of power which you do not possess, and denunciations of vengeance which you do not intend to execute, will naturally inspire.

5. It has been laid down as a maxim on this subject, that the certainty of punishment is more effectual than the severity of punishment, in deterring offenders. It might be shewn that this maxim is not true generally; but it is true, as it has been applied in the present instance, where the uncertainty of the more severe punishment is so great as to amount almost to the certainty of its not being inflicted. It is urged, indeed, in support of the above maxim, that hope is the most universal principle of action, and that where the least opening is left for it, the mind will avail itself of it. Hope is no doubt a very strong principle of action; but so is fear also; and the one is often busied as effectually in exaggerating the possible evils of life, as the other is in multiplying the chances of good. The whole seems to depend on the turn which is given to the mind, so as to dispose it to hope or fear, to dwell on the good or the bad side of things; for whichever feeling once predominates, is sure to exclude the opposite. Now as there is a point at which the apprehension of danger excites as much or even more terror than the reality, and produces all the effects of despair, so there is a point at which it loses all its effect, and becomes as it were the sport of the imagination, the play-thing of the will. And this seems to be the effect of laws which are not executed once in a hundred times on those who are strongly tempted to violate them,—who are therefore habituated to contemplate the chances of escape, and whose passions and necessities must finally prevail over the dread of danger which constantly grows less from familiarity.—This is not however the case with the rest of mankind: the fear, the possible chance of detection and punishment, is all that strikes their minds; and it has all the force of certainty from the violence of the contrast to their actual situation: but the fear of a less punishment, as the loss of liberty or of reputation, would be to them sufficient (for not only the apparent certainty, but the apparent severity of punishment, is increased by the shock given to our habitual feelings), and would be less objectionable on the score of opinion, and as leaving open a wider scale of punishment.

6. The same disposition which leads the more regular part of the community to magnify the chances of severe punishment as to themselves, leads them (changing places with him) to magnify the danger of the criminal, and to anticipate the worst that can befal him from the perpetration and detection of the crime. The unwillingness to inflict so disproportionate a punishment consequently produces an increased relaxation of the laws, a greater frequency of offences, and greater insecurity of property. The same reasoning will also explain the seeming inconsistency which has been objected to the arguments of those who contend that punishments *in terrorem* do not make any impression on the offender, but only on the jury, the prosecutor, and the witnesses: because from the very nature of their habits, situations, and pursuits, the possibility of the punishment alone strikes the one, and the chance of impunity the other.

7. This nominal severity of the laws against ordinary offences is farther mischievous, as while it secures immediate impunity to these offences, it stands in the way of other more moderate, practicable, and therefore effectual punishments for them. Another collateral effect of this severity of the laws operating as a prohibition on their execution, is to lead the culprit step by step to the commission of the highest crimes, from which he might have been saved, if justice had overtaken his first attempts in iniquity. Thus the extreme of rigour converted into the extreme of lenity prevents the possibility of those wholesome corrections and timely warnings, which, if properly applied and regularly enforced, might deter and reclaim the inexperienced novice.—One great object of the proposed amelioration of the system of penal law would be, not merely to introduce more humane and equitable punishments, but to give effect and vigour to those that were enacted, and strengthen the security of the public against petty offences, which the existing laws defeat by an over-eagerness in their pursuit and prevention.

8. It has been contended, indeed, that there are but two methods of administering penal justice; "the first of which assigns capital punishment to few offences, and inflicts it invariably; the second assigns capital punishment to many kinds of offences, but inflicts it only upon a few examples of each kind." And again, it has been urged, that as it is impossible to ascertain beforehand all the circumstances and degrees of different offences, and to assign a punishment to each accordingly, the best method is, to assign the highest punishment to the great majority of offences, so as *to sweep into the net* every crime which, under any possible circumstances, may merit the punishment of death, and to leave the relaxation of the law in all common cases to the discretion of the judge. This opinion is sanctioned by no less an authority than that of Dr. Paley, and has even been re-echoed from the bench, thus receiving the still higher authority of the judges, who seem fond of their privilege of relaxing the severity of the law.—I will speak first of the argument, and then of the authority. First, it is evident, that in the latter mode of administering penal justice, every offence must be made capital, which it is not; therefore the alternative is not true. Though it is not possible to define the particular incidental aggravations and mitigations of each offence beforehand, is it therefore impossible to define the general character of offences, and to proportion the punishment to them accordingly, still leaving a great deal to discretion, according to the different shades of criminality in the same offence? Because theft and murder admit of different degrees of criminality, are we to say that there is no diffe-

rence between theft and murder, and that the punishment of both shall be the same? By the very nature of law, which is positive and general, something must be left to discretion; that is, the rigid rule of law, which is conversant about generals only, must be qualified by the admission of another principle, which is conversant about particulars; but the law, when it ceases to be positive and general, ceases to exist as such, for it is only by marking out the classes of offences, and the gradations of punishment, that it can operate as a settled rule of action; and the reasoning here insisted on would go to supersede the laws altogether, and to leave the punishment in all cases whatever entirely to discretion. This reasoning, therefore, seems to overturn itself; and requires some better authority in its support than that which it has to boast of, for I cannot consider the opinion of Dr. Paley as any authority at all. His celebrated and popular work on Moral and Political Philosophy has been celebrated and popular for no other reason than that it is a very ingenious, and somewhat amusing, apology for existing abuses of every description. It is not an attempt to shew what is right, but on all occasions to palliate and find out plausible excuses for what is wrong. It is a work without the least value, except as a convenient common-place book, or *vade-mecum*, for tyro politicians and young divines, to smooth their progress to preferment. Neither do I think the opinion of the judges can be resorted to as authority on this question. No opinion can be of much weight on any subject, when you may always predict beforehand, without any reference to the merits of the case, what that opinion will be. The opinion of the judges who administer the laws must naturally be in favour of the laws which they administer. Both custom and even duty attach them to the established system. As judges, they neither can be, nor ought they to be, free from prejudice, from a tenacious adherence to the method prescribed by law for the administration of justice; but that is no reason why they are to be appealed to as legislators. The characters of the judge and the legislator are essentially distinct, and indeed incompatible: the one must approve of the laws from habit and situation, the other ought to approve of them from reason only. It is not a mark of respect, but "an uncivil irony" to ask such persons their opinion; it is exposing one of the common weaknesses of human nature. The answer will always be given on a principle of self-defence.

9. Again, it has been objected that the terror of the existing law has contributed to form and perfect the manners, and to supersede the necessity of its execution, which advantage would be endangered by the repeal of the law. But this argument to be consistent would go to prove the necessity of enforcing as well as of not repealing the law, for this system of manners grew up under its practical operation. Besides, the manners will naturally cease to require the same influencing causes after a certain period, and will even be injured and insulted by the very laws which may be supposed to have formed them.

A NEW LITERARY JOURNAL FOR THE LADIES.

We observe with satisfaction that an attempt is about to be made to establish a Monthly Magazine for the Ladies, which is not to be addressed to the vain and idle part of the Sex, but to those who may be of opinion that there is some value in other things besides the art of managing a work of filigree or deciding upon a flounce. That there is not only room for this "British Ladies' Magazine," but that such a publication is wanted, we are more than satisfied. The works of the kind now issued are unquestionably wretched in the extreme; we should think that they must be scorned by those fair creatures even, who, languid from want of employment, and afflicted by the relaxed attentions of those ungrateful animals on whom they have fixed their fond regards, are driven to the labour of reading,—

"When POLL sits mute, and SHOCK is most unkind."

As we have no sort of interest in the concern, but that which springs from a wish to see the establishment of a useful and sensible work, we do not hesitate to recommend to our female readers an examination of the first Number, which is announced to appear in a few days; and in the mean time, that they may form some idea of the design of the Conductors, we extract from their Prospectus the following passage:—

"In conformity to this intimation, they frankly avow, that the rapid increase of an intellectual order of females, to whom a Journal, formed upon a comprehensive principle, and dedicated to themselves, would be serviceable, has emboldened them to undertake one. The effect of superior views in the education of women, is beginning to display itself; and every day adds to the number of those who, in mental acquirement, as in domestic propriety, dignify the character and adorn the name. Johnson himself, if now living, would admit, that individuals abound among the sex who, without sacrificing any of its amiable or distinguishing attributes, are capable of regarding society with an investigating spirit;—of throwing an eye of speculation on its ever-changing aspect;—in a word, (and the anti-climax is significant,) of being interested beyond a novel, and sagacious beyond a charade. To *these*, the appropriation of a respectable literary vehicle, for communication or inquiry, cannot fail to be acceptable; and to these, as the representatives of the sex in general, a Miscellany, which can succeed only by being *respectable*, is with modesty addressed. WOMAN, comprehending in the term all the indefinable and important considerations which it is calculated to convey, will form the guiding impulse of the British Lady's Magazine; *her* improvement, *her* convenience, and, in the highest sense, *her* amusement,—the only object of its conductors. Her powerful countenance, in return, is requested for a publication, which has a view to her alone, and is to be regarded as an attempt to combine the light and elegant associations that are more particularly feminine, with a stedfast attention to the progression of the higher departments of literature, of morals, and of general information. The dedication is special, but it is obvious, that to succeed will be also to merit the perusal and approbation of MAN."

TAXATION.

The Householders of Westminster meet on Thursday, in Palace Yard, to take into consideration the present state of the National Taxation, particularly the Property Tax, and what proceedings may be proper thereupon.

"He did not doubt that it was in the contemplation of Ministers to propose the renewal of the whole, or part of the Property Tax, and he had as little doubt that it would be collected even more oppressively. The people might rest assured, that as long as they chose to pay so heavy and unconstitutional a tax, the Ministers would discover some means of expending the produce of it. If proper retrenchments had been made, the tax would not be required. Instead of saddling the country with such scandalous jobs as that trick of state to remove a troublesome Member from the House of Commons, the appointment of Mr. Canning, at 14,000*l.* a year, to represent our

gracious Sovereign, where there was neither King nor Court. That appointment drew in its train many other expences, for the friends of Mr. Canning must be provided for to do the thing completely. Amongst the rest Mr. Huskisson had a place, and although he had formerly given them most gloomy pictures of our finances, and of the state of the currency, telling the country that retrenchment alone could save them, yet during the present Session he had never opened his mouth, nor need they expect to hear any thing of him, except to support the Ministers, or to defend the propriety of some new tax, such as the Property Tax."—*Mr. Waithman.*

ST. IVES, HUNTINGDONSHIRE, DEC. 20.—On Thursday last, this town was thrown into a very serious ferment, by the Commissioners of the Property Tax (yielding to the suggestion of the Inspector), notifying a considerable intended advance in the usual assessment on property. When it became generally known for what purpose this meeting of the Commissioners was held at the Crown Inn, more than three hundred persons assembled, who, rushing themselves into the Commissioners' room, seized the Inspector, and forced him out through the glass window into the yard, by which he was considerably cut and bruised. The tumult increased so much without side, that the officer only effected his escape from this popular resentment by privately passing through several neighbouring houses; the people then proceeded to the Inspector's house, the windows of which they instantly destroyed. The Commissioners, we understand, at length appeased their fury, by a declaration that no rise of the tax should take place for the present.

POLICE.

MANSION-HOUSE.

—— *Fenning*, Captain of the country ship Caroline, from Bombay to Europe, was charged on suspicion of having murdered, on Friday the 2d of October last, John Deuzer, a quarter-master on board the said ship, on the passage to Europe.—In support of the prosecution, several of the ship's crew appeared to give evidence. Their testimony went to prove, that on the morning on which the deceased met his death, the ship being then within a few days' sail of the Isle of France, the Captain preferred some complaints against the deceased, and he was tied up to the mast, when, after receiving a slight punishment, he was released. After breakfast time, however, the deceased was ordered into the cabin, where the Captain demanded an inspection of his papers and accounts. The Captain's servant, and another person who was then in the cabin, were ordered to withdraw, and the deceased and the Captain were left alone. One or two of the witnesses deposed to the door of the cabin being locked, while others stated it was merely closed to. A short time after the Captain and deceased were left together, a noise was heard, as if proceeding from some person receiving a beating, which was followed by the cries of "mercy," and "release me." Soon after this a shout issued from some part of the ship, that a man was overboard, and the Captain was seen rushing upon deck, and ordering out the boat. The alarm then became general, and every exertion was made to save the man, who was observed struggling in the water, a short distance from the ship. The ship was at this time sailing at the rate of seven or eight knots an hour, and there was a heavy sea. Every effort to save the deceased was ineffectual.—The Captain in his defence stated, that the deceased having shewn a good deal of impropriety in his conduct, particularly in his mode of keeping his accounts, he resolved upon chastising him, with a view to "intimidate and not to injure him." He stated also, that the deceased came to him with his papers and accounts, to the cabin, where, after an investigation and remonstrance, he confessed having "struck or slapped the deceased upon the face." That after this he ordered the witness to sit down and remain in a corner of the room, while he proceeded to finish some writing. In a short time, however, he was roused by a rustling noise in another part of the cabin, and looking round, he observed the deceased at half length out of the window, which lay constantly open. He immediately started from his seat, but before he reached the window the deceased had plunged himself into the water. The Captain instantly gave the alarm, and running upon deck ordered out the boat.—The investigation of this case occupied nearly three hours, but the LORD MAYOR, anxious to obtain the fullest possible information and evidence, ordered the Captain to be brought up again in a few days, and all the ship's crew, who had any knowledge of the transaction, to appear.

QUEEN-SQUARE.

Thomas Nott, alias *John Smith*, alias *William Cotterill*, was further examined on Tuesday, on the charges of swindling and robbery preferred against him, on which occasion an office full of new complaints appeared, and many new charges were made. A Turner, from the Borough, said, that while the prisoner was living in the Kent-road, carrying on the trade of Dentist, this person also observing that he had understood Nott to have been originally a barber, he had received an order to send in sundry goods, with the bill, as they would be paid for immediately. A boy carried the articles, from whom Nott contrived to get them, on pretence of seeing whether they were right, and he then said that the master must call for the money. He called in vain, never being able to see Nott; and soon afterwards the prisoner left that residence without paying any one. He also traced Nott to Lock's-field, Walworth, where the business of Dentist was changed for that of Fortune-telling! The master-magician, however, soon took another flight, and as usual, assumed another calling; for when he next met the prisoner he was discovered living at the City-road-terrace, where he was charged with stealing sheets, having, as was customary with him, three or four women about the house to contribute to his domestic comforts. The prisoner said that he had just triumphed over many difficulties, and that he was now going on most prosperously. He was carrying on business in the city as a Money Agent, &c. and had an office in the Bury-chambers, St. Mary Axe. He then handed a large card, which contained his address and profession on one side, and on the other, a long notification to the Public, Nobility Gentry, &c. wanting either to borrow or lend money. Amongst other choice morsels it said that Mr. Nott, who had been long engaged in such transactions, had established an unquestionable reputation, so that he could now command money to any amount, and had no connection whatever with any other person, especially any of the vile gangs of common advertising money-lenders who were about the town preying upon the public, by defrauding the honest and unwary tradesman, who might be in temporary distress. He would undertake to raise money to any amount, at the moderate rate of five per cent. but he observed the utmost secrecy and required its observance; and the climax was completed by the following conclusion:—"No person, whose views are not strictly honourable, need think of applying to Mr. Nott!" The defrauded turner expressed himself delighted with Mr. Nott's prosperity, as he would be good enough to pay his little bill, as well as all those small accounts which he had forgotten to pay on precipitately leaving Harpur-street, Kent-road, and thereby refute the rude slanders of the neighbourhood. But he laughed at the idea of paying. Mr. Nott has turned land-surveyor, in Park-lane, after which the turner lost him till his apprehension.—Mr. Hoffman, of the Strand, stationer, received an order from the prisoner a few months ago, he then having a counting-house at No. 19, Roll's buildings, Chancery-lane, and calling himself a land-surveyor, for books, stationery, &c. Mr. H. sent the goods to the amount of 8*l.*, but not liking the prisoner's high talk, he desired the boy not to leave the articles without the money. Nott, however, wheedled the boy out of the goods, since which Mr. H. could never get a farthing.—A letter was received from a Lady by the Magistrate, stating that the real name of the prisoner who had been examined under that of Thomas Nott was William Cotterll. That he had a mother and sister in Cumberland-row, New-road, and that previously to turning swindler, which he had now been for a long time, he pursued a very humble calling (hair-dresser, it was said) to which he had been originally bred. She declined mentioning her name, being convinced that the consequence would be the robbery of her house within a week by some of the gang.

Mr. Conquerour was astonished at the unparalleled depravity, effrontery, and impudence of the prisoner, who even now evinced not the least feeling while he was trembling on the very edge of the gallows. His scheme of depredation and fraud appeared to have been at work in almost every parish in and about London, and no artifice was thought too low—no trick or cant too degrading—to realize its object. The prompt manner in which gentlemen and tradesmen had come forward to develope the infamous character of the prisoner, when they had no hope of recovering any thing, did them infinite credit.—Committed for further examination on Monday next.

HATTON-GARDEN.

A respectable looking young woman came on Monday to the office and stated, that about twelve o'clock on Saturday night, in her way home to her father's in Camden Town, she was overtaken by three men, who fell into conversation with her, and walked along with her down Britannia-row, and that when passing a stable yard, they suddenly seized her, stopped her mouth to prevent her crying out, and forcibly dragged her into a stable, where two of them violated her person, whilst the third assisted in keeping her down, and preventing her crying or struggling; that they afterwards robbed her, by tearing her pocket off her side, which contained two three-shilling pieces, an eighteen-penny piece, and some other trifling articles, besides a new pair of shoes and a piece of patchwork.—*William Brittell* deposed, that he was watchman in Camden-town; that about a quarter past 12 o'clock, he met the complainant in Britannia-row, at the stable gate of No. 10; she told him the same story she now related, but admitted that she consented to their violating her person, on condition of sparing her life. Witness accompanied her back into the stable and searched it; he there found the pocket, emptied of its contents, and a duplicate on the floor, which she said was her property, and in her pocket, when it was taken from her.—She described the men, which answered the description given of three suspicious characters well known to the officers to frequent that neighbourhood.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Another Robber shot.—The shop of *Mr. Arlett*, the poulterer, of Great Marylebone-street, having been repeatedly robbed, he has lately taken to sleep in a parlour adjoining his shop, to protect his property. On Friday morning, between three and four o'clock, Mr. Arlett was awakened with a noise, which induced him to get up, and which he found proceeded from the shop. On examination, he saw that the glass over the shutters had been forced open, and a man then in the act of taking turkies out of the window: Mr. Arlett, being armed with a loaded pistol, presented it at the robber, discharged it, and seeing him suddenly disappear from the window, had no doubt but that he had shot him. The report of the pistol alarmed the neighbourhood; a coachman going home near the spot at the time, saw two men running away. The watchmen in the neighbourhood pursued them; and there is no doubt but that the fellow who was taking the turkies had an accomplice, who was leading him, after he was wounded, and on being pursued closely ran off, and succeeded in making his escape, leaving his companion to his fate, whom the watchmen came up with, and finding him very much wounded in his head, face, &c. conveyed him to the Middlesex hospital, where his wounds were dressed, but he was not considered out of danger.

Saturday week, an Inquest was held at the Rope-makers' Arms, Deptford, on the bodies of John Murry, a child, four years old, and Mary Norton, about three years old, who died on Friday, in consequence of taking a quantity of rat-bane. W. Murry, the father, deposed, he, as well as Mrs. Murry, were out on business, and at their return found the child very ill, when Mr. Hallden, surgeon, was sent for, and ascertained the child had taken a quantity of poison; on this discovery, he was questioned, when he said he got some sugar, which he eat, and had nothing else. Mrs. Murry recollected they bought some composition of a rat-catcher, to destroy the rats, which was recommended by their butcher; and it turned out that the child, by means of a board in the shop, reached a shelf where it was deposited, and eat it instead of sugar, having acknowledged giving Mary Norton a part, but that his own sister refused to take any. He lived only for the next day.—*Mr. Hallden*, surgeon, of King street, Deptford, stated he was called on Thursday to both the children, and found them in a very convulsive state; they had every appearance of having taking poison, and such a quantity, that medicines could be of no service. Verdict—*Accidentally poisoned.*

MARRIAGES.

On Saturday, the 24th instant, at Lee, Kent, by the Rev. J. Lock, Mr. George Soanes, of Bush-lane, second son of Mr. John Soanes, Limehouse, to Maria Theresa, eldest daughter of the late Richard Cottle, Esq. of Milk-street, and Trowbridge, Wilts.

Monday, at St. Margaret's Church, James Jones, Esq. to Louisa, youngest daughter of Peter Moore, Esq. M. P. for Coventry.

Monday, Mr. Charles Chatfield, of Angel-court, Throgmorton-street, to Miss Ann Gatty, of Finsbury-square.

On Thursday, at the Oaks, Surrey, the seat of the Earl of Derby, Captain Hornby, of his Majesty's ship Spartan, to Miss Burgoyne, eldest daughter of the late Lieut.-General Burgoyne.

DEATHS.

On Monday, at Broome, near Canterbury, Lady Oxenden, wife of Sir Henry Oxenden, Bart. and fifth daughter of the late Lieut.-Colonel Graham.

On Tuesday, in King-street, St. James's, the Hon. Frederic John Hay Kinnaird, youngest son of the late Lord Kinnaird.

On the 18th October last, in the 23d year of his age, on his passage to Canada, Lieutenant James Goldsmid, of the 58th regiment, third son of the late Benjamin Goldsmid, Esq. of Roehampton. Devoted to the profession he had chosen, he volunteered to join the first battalion of his regiment, now on service in North America, in lieu of a brother officer, a married man, whose wife had just join in. In proceeding to her destination the vessel struck upon the island of St. Paul, at the entrance of the Gulph of St. Lawrence, and immediately went to pieces.—Out of 236 persons who were on board, only 37 were saved.—Thus prematurely perished this excellent young man, whose suavity of manners and rectitude of conduct has justly endeared him to his family and friends.

On the 10th inst. in Somerset-street, aged 81, the Rev. James Scott, D. D. of Trinity College, Cambridge, and incumbent for upwards of 45 years of the great living of Simonburne, in Northumberland, in the patronage of Greenwich Hospital—a living which he obtained from the Earl of Sandwich, for his letters in the daily newspapers, under the signature of Anti-S-janus.—As a poet Dr. Scott was distinguished in early life, having gained the Seatonian Prize on the three successive years of 1760, 1761 and 1762, for his "Heaven," a Vision; his Verses on Purity of Heart, and his Hymn on the subject of Repentance. To his elegant Muse we are likewise indebted for that beautiful Ode on Sculpture, which constitutes the 200th number of The World. Having completed his academical studies, he engaged in more public life, and was long well known as an eminent political writer.—*Morning Chronicle.*

On Saturday week, Mrs. Henry Hughes, the favourite actress of the Plymouth Theatre, of the jaundice, in the thirty-sixth year of her age.

Mr. Richard Hughes, an actor of the good old comic school, and who deservedly possessed a high degree of provincial reputation, though but little known to a London audience, on Tuesday made his exit from "this universal theatre, the world." He had long been a proprietor of the Weymouth Theatre, and also possessed a share of Sadler's Wells.

Printed and published by JOHN HUNT, at the EXAMINER Office, 21, Maiden-Lane, Covent-Garden.—Price 7d.

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